

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  NORTHERN NATURAL GAS COMPANY	DOCKET NO. LRP-00-1
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**ORDER ACCEPTING LAND RESTORATION PLAN**

(Issued June 30, 2000)

On June 19, 2000, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern) filed an agricultural land restoration plan with the Utilities Board (Board) pursuant to Iowa Code Supplemental § 479A.14(9), which provides that a land restoration plan be filed with the Board prior to initiation of pipeline construction. The plan was docketed as LRP-00-1. No objections to the plan have been filed.

On or about July 5, 2000, Northern is proposing to construct a new 4-inch tie-over pipeline in the vicinity of Harlan, Iowa (a/k/a Harlan Project). The proposed pipeline will supplement the natural gas volumes on Northern's Harlan branch pipeline and maintain adequate delivery volumes at the end of Northern's Harlan and Dennison branch pipelines.

Northern asserts it will construct the 4-inch pipeline pursuant to its blanket certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on or about September 1, 1982, in FERC Docket No. CP82-401-000. The Harlan Project will be constructed in accordance with the

standards established by FERC's "Upland Erosion Control, Revegetation, and Maintenance Plan" (Plan) attached as Exhibit A to Northern's filing.

The Board has reviewed Northern's plan and finds it adequately addresses most of the land restoration issues contained in Iowa Code Supplemental § 479A.14(1). The Plan does not address construction in wet conditions, but Northern, in its filing, has stated that it will not commence or continue construction on the Harlan Project in wet soil conditions at times when, or locations where, the passage of construction equipment may cause rutting to the extent that topsoil and subsoil are mixed. With this averment, the Board will accept Northern's agricultural land restoration plan.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The agricultural land restoration plan filed by Northern Natural Gas Company on June 19, 2000, is accepted.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2000.